

R E M A R K S

This is in response to the Office Action that was mailed on August 11, 2006. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in this application. Claims 1-44 are pending in the application, of which claims 1-7, 22-38, and 40-44 stand withdrawn from consideration on their merits, leaving claims 8-21 and 39 for detailed consideration. Of the claims being examined on their merits, claim 8 is the sole independent claim. Claims 9-21 and 39 all depend – directly or indirectly – from claim 8. Independent claim 8 is amended to recite the feature of claim 12, and claim 12 is accordingly cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 11 and 21 are amended to delete terminology rejected by the Examiner. No new subject matter is introduced into the application by this Amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 8-11, 13-21, and 39 in their current form is earnestly solicited.

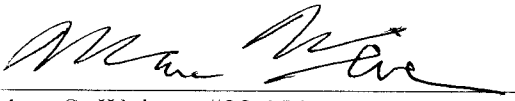
Objection was raised to the specification, and claims 11 and 21 were rejected under the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112, due to the recitation of the terminology “real time”. Although Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's evaluation of this terminology is correct, in the spirit of compact prosecution Applicant has removed this terminology from the claims. It is respectfully submitted that the claims in their present form satisfy the requirements of the statute.

Claims 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,666,215 to Fredlund et al. (“Fredlund”). Claims 9, 14, 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fredlund. Claim 21 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fredlund in view of US 6,366,359 B1 to Garland (“Garland”). Claim 39 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fredlund in view of “Official Notice”. Claim 12 was not rejected over the Fredlund reference, alone or in combination with any other reference. In fact, the Examiner kindly indicated that claim 12 is drawn to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, in the spirit of compact prosecution, Applicant has incorporated the feature of allowable claim 12 into independent claim 8. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8-11, 13-21, and 39 currently before the Examiner are free of the prior art and should be allowed.

If there are any remaining questions or issues concerning the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Registration No. 28,781) at (703) 205-8008.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Marc S. Weiner, #32,181

MSW/RG
1110-0298P

Attorney for Applicant
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000